

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Withdrawn): A diagnostic kit comprising an antibody against brain-derived neurotrophic factor and a labeling agent.

Claim 5 (Withdrawn): The diagnostic kit according to claim 4, wherein said diagnostic kit is capable of measuring the concentration of a brain-derived neurotrophic factor in blood in patients.

Claim 6 (Withdrawn): The diagnostic kit according to claim 4, comprising an antibody against brain-derived neurotrophic factor and a labeled antibody against brain-derived neurotrophic factor.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A method for detecting one or more eating disorders selected from the group consisting of anorexia nervosa and bulimia nervosa which comprises measuring the concentration of [[a]] brain-derived neurotrophic factor or BDNF in blood in a human subject animals, wherein a decrease concentration of BDNF in the blood of said subject compared to the BDNF level in normal control subject is indicative of anorexia nervosa or bulimia nervosa.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 7, which comprises measuring the concentration of [[a]] brain-derived neurotrophic factor or BDNF with an antibody against brain-derived neurotrophic factor.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 7, which comprises measuring the concentration of [[a]] brain-derived neurotrophic factor or BDNF with an antibody against brain-derived neurotrophic factor and a labeled antibody against brain-derived neurotrophic factor.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A method for detecting a therapeutic agent of one or more eating disorders selected from the group consisting of anorexia nervosa and bulimia nervosa, which comprises measuring the concentration of [[a]] brain-derived neurotrophic factor or BDNF in blood in animals.

Claims 11-12 (Canceled).

Claim 13 (Withdrawn): The diagnostic kit according to claim 5, comprising an antibody against brain-derived neurotrophic factor and a labeled antibody against brain-derived neurotrophic factor.

Claim 14 (New): A method for detecting one or more eating disorders selected from the group consisting of anorexia nervosa and bulimia nervosa comprising:
detecting the concentration of brain-derived neurotrophic factor or BDNF in the blood or serum of a human subject, wherein a lower level of BDNF in the blood or serum of said subject compared to that in the blood or serum of a normal control subject is indicative of anorexia nervosa or bulimia nervosa.

Claim 15 (New): The method of claim 14, wherein said subject is a female.

Claim 16 (New): The method of claim 14, wherein said subject is a pubescent or adolescent female.

Claim 17 (New): The method of claim 14, wherein said subject is tested for anorexia nervosa.

Claim 18 (New): The method of claim 14, wherein said subject is tested for bulimia nervosa.

Claim 19 (New): The method of claim 14, which uses a sandwich ELISA and a BDNF specific antibody to detect BDNF levels.

Claim 20 (New): The method of claim 14, comprising detecting BDNF levels in blood or serum of a subject before and after therapeutic treatment of anorexia nervosa or bulimia nervosa.